

**COPY**

**FILED**

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**11 FEB 16 AM 9:36**

CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DIST. OF CALIF.  
LOS ANGELES

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**BURTON HURWITZ,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**PORTFOLIO RECOVERY  
ASSOCIATES, LLC,**

Defendant.

) Case No.  
) **CV11 01411 PLA**  
) **COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION**  
) **OF FEDERAL FAIR DEBT**  
) **COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT**  
) **AND ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT**  
) **COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT**  
)  
)  
)  
)

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer for Defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692, *et seq.* (hereinafter "FDCPA"), and the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Cal Civ Code §1788, *et seq.* (hereinafter "RFDCPA"), both of which prohibit debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair practices.

## II. JURISDICTION

2. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 15 U.S.C. §1692k (d).

## III. PARTIES

3. Plaintiff, Burton Hurwitz ("Plaintiff"), is a natural person residing in Los Angeles county in the state of California, and is a "consumer" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. §1692a(3) and is a "debtor" as defined by Cal Civ Code §1788.2(h).

4. At all relevant times herein, Defendant, Portfolio Recovery Associate, LLC, ("Defendant") was a company engaged, by use of the mails and telephone, in the business of collecting a debt from Plaintiff which qualifies as a "debt," as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(5), and a "consumer debt," as defined by Cal Civ Code §1788.2(f). Defendant regularly attempts to collect debts alleged to be due another, and therefore is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6), and RFDCPA, Cal Civ Code §1788.2(c).

## IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

5. At various and multiple times prior to the filing of the instant complaint, including within the one year preceding the filing of this complaint, Defendant contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect an alleged outstanding debt.

1           6.     On average Plaintiff received more than two collections calls per day  
2 from Defendant in connection with an attempt to collect an alleged debt,  
3 including but not limited to a call made on November 10, 2010 at 4:37pm.

4           7.     On more than one occasion, Plaintiff requested that Defendant cease  
5 and desist from contact Plaintiff on his cell phone.  
6

7           8.     Defendant has and continues to contact Plaintiff on his cell phone,  
8 including but not limited to, a call made on November 10, 2010 at 4:37pm.  
9

10          9.     On more than one occasion, Defendant contacted Plaintiff at times  
11 and places that are known or should have been known to be inconvenient,  
12 including but not limited to, calls made to Plaintiff's cell phone.  
13

14          10.    Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA and the RFDCPA in  
15 multiple ways, including but not limited to:  
16

- 17           a) Causing a telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously  
18 to annoy Plaintiff (Cal Civ Code §1788.11(d));  
19
- 20           b) Communicating, by telephone or in person, with  
21 Plaintiff with such frequency as to be unreasonable and  
22 to constitute an harassment to Plaintiff under the  
23 circumstances (Cal Civ Code §1788.11(e));
- 24           c) Causing Plaintiffs telephone to ring repeatedly or  
25 continuously with intent to harass, annoy or abuse  
26 Plaintiff (§1692d(5));and
- 27           d) Communicating with Plaintiff at times or places which  
28 were known or should have been known to be  
inconvenient for Plaintiff (§1692c(a)(1)).

11. As a result of the above violations of the FDCPA and RFDCPA Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer injury to Plaintiff's feelings, personal humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish and emotional distress, and Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for Plaintiff's actual damages, statutory damages, and costs and attorney's fees.

**COUNT I: VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT  
COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT**

12. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference all of the preceding paragraphs.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that judgment be entered against the Defendant for the following:

- A. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA;
- B. Actual damages;
- C. Statutory damages;
- D. Costs and reasonable attorney's fees; and,
- E. For such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

**COUNT II: VIOLATION OF ROSENTHAL  
FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT**

13. Plaintiff reincorporates by reference all of the preceding paragraphs.

1 14. To the extent that Defendant's actions, counted above, violated the  
2 RFDCPA, those actions were done knowingly and willfully  
3

4 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

5 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays that judgment be entered  
6 against the Defendant for the following:  
7

- 8 A. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct  
9 violated the RFDCPA;  
10 B. Actual damages;  
11 C. Statutory damages for willful and negligent violations;  
12 D. Costs and reasonable attorney's fees,  
13 E. For such other and further relief as may be just and proper.  
14

15  
16 **PLAINTIFF HEREBY REQUESTS A TRIAL BY JURY**

17 Respectfully submitted this 11th day of February, 2011.  
18

19 By: 

20 **Todd M. Friedman (216752)**  
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ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BURTON HURWITZ

CASE NUMBER

PLAINTIFF(S)

CV11 01411 PLA

v.

PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC

SUMMONS

DEFENDANT(S).

TO: DEFENDANT(S): PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it), you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached ☒ complaint ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ amended complaint ☐ counterclaim ☐ cross-claim or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff's attorney, Todd M. Friedman, whose address is Law Offices of Todd M. Friedman, 369 S. Doheny Dr., #415, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

Clerk, U.S. District Court

FEB 16 2011

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

CHRISTOPHER POWERS

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Deputy Clerk

(Seal of the Court)

[Use 60 days if the defendant is the United States or a United States agency, or is an officer or employee of the United States. Allowed 60 days by Rule 12(a)(3)].

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
CIVIL COVER SHEET

COPY

**I (a) PLAINTIFFS** (Check box if you are representing yourself ☐)  
BURTON HURWITZ**DEFENDANTS**  
PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC**(b) Attorneys** (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same.)Todd M. Friedman, Esq. Law Offices of Todd M. Friedman, P.C.  
369 S. Doheny Dr., #415, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Attorneys (If Known)

**II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION** (Place an X in one box only.)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff ☒ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

**III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES - For Diversity Cases Only**  
(Place an X in one box for plaintiff and one for defendant.)

- |   | PTF                        | DEF                        |   | PTF                        | DEF                        |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in This State     | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State                | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

**IV. ORIGIN** (Place an X in one box only.)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding ☐ 2 Removed from State Court ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify): ☐ 6 Multi-District Litigation ☐ 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judge

**V. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:** **JURY DEMAND:** ☒ Yes ☐ No (Check 'Yes' only if demanded in complaint.)**CLASS ACTION** under F.R.C.P. 23: ☐ Yes ☒ No**MONEY DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT:** \$**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION** (Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.)  
15 USC 1692 Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act**VII. NATURE OF SUIT** (Place an X in one box only.)

OTHER STATUTES	CONTRACT	TORTS	TORTS	PRISONER	LABOR
<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc. <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Act <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Info. Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loan (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Fed. Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury-Med Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury-Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <b>IMMIGRATION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus-Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability <b>BANKRUPTCY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 <b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 American with Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 American with Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<b>PETITIONS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus/Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <b>FORFEITURE / PENALTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act <b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark <b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) <b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC 7609

CV11 01411

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:** Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

VIII(a). **IDENTICAL CASES:** Has this action been previously filed in this court and dismissed, remanded or closed? ☒ No ☐ Yes

If yes, list case number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

VIII(b). **RELATED CASES:** Have any cases been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case? ☒ No ☐ Yes

If yes, list case number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Civil cases are deemed related if a previously filed case and the present case:**

- (Check all boxes that apply) ☐ A. Arise from the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or  
☐ B. Call for determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact; or  
☐ C. For other reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or  
☐ D. Involve the same patent, trademark or copyright, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.

**IX. VENUE:** (When completing the following information, use an additional sheet if necessary.)

(a) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which **EACH** named plaintiff resides.

☐ Check here if the government, its agencies or employees is a named plaintiff. If this box is checked, go to item (b).

County in this District:*	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
Los Angeles	

(b) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which **EACH** named defendant resides.

☐ Check here if the government, its agencies or employees is a named defendant. If this box is checked, go to item (c).

County in this District:*	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
	Delaware

(c) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which **EACH** claim arose.

**Note: In land condemnation cases, use the location of the tract of land involved.**

County in this District:*	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
Los Angeles	

\* Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties

**Note: In land condemnation cases, use the location of the tract of land involved**

X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PRO PER): \_\_\_\_\_ Date February 11, 2011

**Notice to Counsel/Parties:** The CV-71 (JS-44) Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed but is used by the Clerk of the Court for the purpose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)

Key to Statistical codes relating to Social Security Cases:

Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action
861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security Act, as amended.
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))